

# LOWE PROVES HE PLAYED THE MAN

Fifth Officer of Titanic Filled His Boat to Capacity and Saved Men in Water.

## CLUE TO MYSTERIOUS SHIP

Mount Temple Believed to Be Steamer Five Miles Away—Passengers Say They Saw Liner Sink.

Washington, April 24.—Harold G. Lowe, fifth officer of the sunken Titanic, today told the Senate investigating committee his part in the struggle of the survivors for life following the catastrophe. His testimony developed that, with a volunteer crew, he rescued four men from the water, saved a sinking collapsible lifeboat by towing it astern of his, and took off 20 men and one woman from the bottom of an overturned boat. Every one of those under his charge he landed safely on the Carpathia.

From first to last Lowe's story showed that he played the man. Ordered away in charge of lifeboat No. 14, he packed it to its capacity on the top deck and, fearing that some might attempt to jump into it while it was descending, kept up a fusillade from his revolver. Once afloat he took charge of a flotilla of small craft, which eventually were picked up by the rescue ship without the loss of a life.

Competing in interest with the day's testimony was the interchange of telegrams between Senator Wm. Alden Smith, chairman of the Senate committee, and George E. Foster.

The latter told of the docking of the steamer Mount Temple at St. John, N. B., with passengers aboard who claimed to have seen the Titanic sink. It was believed that the Mount Temple was the ship that was only five miles from the White Star liner when she took her final plunge.

DEPOSITIONS ARE REQUESTED. Senator Smith has requested that the depositions of the officers and crew of the Mount Temple be sent to him. In addition, he accepted the offer of Dr. E. C. Guizman of Toronto to appear before the committee. Dr. Guizman was one of the passengers who said they saw the Titanic sink.

Acting Premier Foster's telegram, dated today, follows: "Captain Mount Temple reports C. Q. D. message from Titanic 12:30 a. m. ship's time Monday. Was then five miles west and south of position sent out by Titanic. Immediately altered course to reach Titanic but did not arrive at her position until 4:30 a. m. when could not see Titanic's light. Saw no sign of ship or boats. Cruised around position until received message from Carpathia at 8:44 a. m. that she had picked up 200 boatloads and that Titanic had sunk. Received another message at 8:50 from Carpathia. No need to stand by as nothing more could be done. Under these circumstances it does not seem necessary to detain boat due to sail Friday evening. If considered necessary, commission could be appointed to take captain's evidence. Will not doubt be examined later by British commission."

OFFICERS DID NOT SEE LIGHTS. The committee also received a telegram signed by J. H. Moore, master of the Mount Temple A. H. Sargent, chief of deck, H. Heald, second officer, and J. Durrant, the Marconi operator, dated at West St. John, N. B., today practically repeating the information contained in the premier's message and adding that the Mount Temple did not see the Titanic's lights. At 6:30 a. m. the Mount Temple sighted the Carpathia and later the Californian. At eight o'clock she sighted the Russian steamer Birma coming from the south and west. The names of the passengers who claimed they saw the sinking of the Titanic, the message said were not known.

Harold G. Lowe, fifth officer of the Titanic, at today's hearing told of his early experience from the time he ran away to sea at 14 and shipped on a schooner. He knocked around the world on sailing ships, then took up steamers and about 10 months ago joined the White Star line. Until he shipped on the Titanic, he said, he never before had been in the North Atlantic.

Lowe pointed out on a deck chart the quarters of all the officers and the chart was filed with the committee. "I was working the boats under First Officer Murdoch," he continued. "Boat No. 5 was the first one to lower."

"Who got in that boat?" "I don't know, but there is a man here, and had I not been here, I would not have known that I ordered Mr. Ismay away from the boat."

SWORE AT MR. ISMAY. "A steward met me on the Carpathia. He said to me 'What did you say to Ismay that night on the deck?' I said I didn't know that I had said anything to Mr. Ismay. I said I didn't know Mr. Ismay. When the steward on the Carpathia said I had used very strong language to Mr. Ismay."

"Shall I repeat it?" asked Lowe. "I happened to talk to Ismay because he appeared to be getting excited. He was saying excitedly 'lower away! lower away! lower away!'"

answer. Senator Smith insisted upon an answer. "Yes, sir," said Lowe finally. "I think it was properly loaded for lowering."

"What is the official quota for such a lifeboat?" "It is 65."

"That you can carry 65 adults and say a boy or girl?" "That is correct."

"Then you wish the committee to understand that a lifeboat under British regulations could not be loaded with such a quantity of new tackle and equipment containing more than 50 people?"

DANGER OF BUCKLING. "The danger is if you overpowered the boat it will buckle up from the two ends," said Lowe. "The 65 is a floating capacity. If you load from the deck to lower, I should not like to put more than 50 in a lifeboat."

"Mr. Bushall has stated that his lifeboat contained only 25 people when lowered," suggested Senator Smith. "That was not full capacity was it?"

"Well, he was not in charge of that boat, was he?" replied Lowe. "If Officer Lightoller said that boats on the port side were not loaded with more than 25 people because of safety, those boats were not loaded to their full capacity, were they?" Lowe was asked.

"That is a matter of personal judgment," answered Lowe. "What became of lifeboat No. 6?" "It was lowered and I saw it pull away."

Senator Smith then referred to Third Officer Pitman's testimony yesterday in which he said there were 35 persons in lifeboat No. 5. That being the case he asked why Pitman could not have come to the rescue of the drowning, whose cries he heard but did not heed.

WHY SAILORS CAN'T ROW. "Had he attempted to rescue those in the water he would have endangered the lives of those with him," said Lowe. "I want to say a word about that danger."

Lowe continued, "I heard Major Penchen say on the stand that the sailors could not row. Sailors and boatmen are different. Many sailors may be at sea for years, but never go in a rowboat. There are different callings. That is the reason that a great many of the sailors could not row."

Lowe said he was not in a position to order who should go into the boats. "That you were in a position to tell Mr. Ismay to go to hell?"

"Yes, because he was interfering." The witness denied that the reason why the boats were not properly loaded was because the crew were not able to row.

"What was the drill for at Southampton?" asked the chairman. "It was for the board of trade."

"There were eight men to a boat then, were there?" "Yes, there were eight men when the emergency drills were held."

Where were they when you were loading lifeboat No. 5?" "You must remember, sir, we were in harbor and we had the ship of the men. At the time of the collision the men went down with the 'boson to clear away the gangway doors to make way for the loading."

PROTESTS AT INTERPRETATION. "Did that take skilled men? Any one could have done that and yet skilled men were sent below when they were needed for the loading and lowering of the lifeboats. Is that the impression you want to leave with this committee?"

The witness protested against that interpretation of his statement. He said the discipline was excellent. Only one boat, a collapsible, overturned. All the remainder of the 15 boats, he said, were safely lowered.

"It takes from eight to ten men to make a lifeboat ready," said Lowe. "I don't know how many men were at the other boats. You must remember there was a crowd down at the gangway doors."

Senator Smith asked the number of the crew and the witness said so far as he knew there were 900 of them.

# SENATE RECEIVES TRUST LETTERS

Confidential Correspondence of Roosevelt, Bonaparte and Smith on Harvester Suit.

## TELLS OF PERKINS'S THREAT

Morgan Interests Ready to Fight and the Colonel Then Directed That Prosecution Be Dropped.

Washington, April 24.—The confidential correspondence which passed between President Roosevelt, Attorney-General Bonaparte and Commissioner Herbert Knox Smith of the bureau of corporations in 1907, about a government anti-trust suit against the International Harvester company, was sent to the Senate today from the files of the department of justice.

One letter from Colonel Roosevelt to Mr. Bonaparte written at Oyster Bay on August 22, 1907, said that the colonel had had conferences with George W. Perkins about the company's affairs and directed Mr. Bonaparte not to file the suit, but to go over the matter with Commissioner Smith and Mr. Perkins.

A letter from Commissioner Smith to the colonel on September 23, told of conferences with Mr. Perkins and stated Commissioner Smith's objections to a prosecution at that time. The commissioner wrote that he thought the question of the company's guilt or innocence was merely a technical question and that of a conference with Mr. Perkins on August 21.

The commissioner wrote that Mr. Perkins concluded with great emphasis "that if after all the endeavors of this company and the other Morgan interests to uphold the policies of the administration and to adopt their methods of modern publicity, this company was now going to be attacked in a purely technical case, the interest he represented was going to fight." Further on in the same letter Mr. Smith wrote:

GREAT INFLUENCE OF MORGAN. "While the administration has never hesitated to grapple with any financial interest no matter how great, when it is believed that a substantial wrong is being committed, nevertheless it is a very practical question whether it is well to throw away now the great influence of the so-called Morgan interests, which up to this time have supported the administration policy of the administration both in general principles and in the application thereof to their specific interests, and to place them generally in opposition. I believe Mr. Perkins's statement that his interests would necessarily be driven into active opposition was a sincere one, and in fact, I can hardly see how those great interests should be otherwise."

In another portion of the letter Commissioner Smith reported Mr. Perkins as having said substantially that the "Stand and Oil people in New York were standing him the laugh for having thought he was trying to be good and keep out of the way of the administration and that he was now going to get the same dose as the others."

With the correspondence was a letter from William Lusk, Jr., the president's secretary making an appointment for Mr. Bonaparte to talk the business over. The president's letter to the attorney-general followed:

TEXT OF ROOSEVELT'S LETTER. "Oyster Bay, N. Y., Aug. 22, 1907. "My Dear Mr. Attorney-General: "George W. Perkins of the International Harvester company has just called upon me and submitted to me certain papers of which I enclose copies. According to these papers and Mr. Perkins's statement it would appear that the harvester company has been engaged in a conspiracy to defraud the government and that its business be investigated by the department of commerce and labor through the commissioner of corporations; that three years ago the interstate commerce commission decided that it had accepted what amounted to substantially to rebates; that Mr. Moody, the then attorney-general, was about to take action on this report, but the harvester company at once promised to rectify the practices and see that nothing contrary to the ruling of the commission was again done. This was satisfactory to the attorney-general and the suit was dropped."

The harvester company says it is in position to prove that it has lived up to this agreement made in May, 1904. The harvester company advances this as a proof that it is an illegal action is pointed out it will itself rectify the matter on its being pointed out. It further appears that last December Senator Hanchborough got the Senate to pass a resolution directing the department of commerce and labor to make an inquiry into the character and operation, and effect upon interstate commerce, of the International Harvester company and that in January last Messrs. Garfield and Smith met various representatives of the harvester company in New York and a conclusion was reached that the department would begin the examination as speedily as possible, which conclusion was announced publicly in the press."

SMITH TOLD HUSBY TO PUSH CASE. "On March 1 Commissioner Smith notified the harvester company that the inquiry would be into the incorporation value of its property, securities and the general management of its business. It appears by his letter of August 8, that Commissioner Smith had begun the investigation but has not made such progress with it as he would like to on account of his being crowded with work."

Mr. Perkins's request to me is that, before the company is exposed to the certain loss and damage that the mere institution of a suit would entail, this investigation of Mr. Perkins should be required by Senate resolution should be carried to completion. He explicitly states to me that there would be no intention to plead the examination by the department of commerce and labor as conferring any immunity from proceedings by the department of justice. Will you see Mr. Perkins and Commissioner Smith, go over the matter in full and report to me thereon?"

"Please do not file the suit until I hear from you."

Sincerely yours, "THEODORE ROOSEVELT." "Hon. Charles J. Bonaparte, "Attorney-General, "Hotel Aqueduct, Lenox, Mass. "Enclosures."

WOULD STAND PROSECUTION. Commissioner Smith wrote the President that Mr. Perkins outlined the position of the harvester company as having committed no violation of law of which it knew, and only wished that the investigation then under way by the department of commerce and labor be continued. The company was willing to stand prosecution if found in violation of any statute, he said. The commissioner wrote to the president, in part, as follows:

"To the extent of my present knowledge, I am satisfied that the facts are as stated by the company, with the single exception that I do not have definite knowledge as to the nature of the case now in the hands of the department of justice, but from the impression of the attorney-general I am inclined to believe that it is an anti-trust case, a purely technical legal question."

"As to the principle of fair dealing and good policy involved, I also cannot emphasize with the attitude of the company. It is certainly true that this company has been most open with the bureau."

# HAPPENINGS IN VERMONT

Local Items of Interest From All Parts of the Green Mountain State.

## THE NEWS BY COUNTIES

From the Island in the Lake to the Passumpsic, Along Otter Creek and by the Shores of White River.

## ADDISON COUNTY

### MIDDLEBURY.

Word has been received of the death of Mrs. Fred T. Skinner in Chicago, a resident of East Middlebury and formerly Miss Daisy Manning, daughter of the late James Manning of that village. The remains were brought here Saturday morning and taken to the home of her step-mother, Mrs. J. J. Manney in East Middlebury, where the funeral was held at two o'clock Saturday afternoon.

She is survived by her husband—Evan Kirby has gone to the Mary Fletcher hospital in Burlington, where he is to undergo treatment. The funeral home of Horace Dow on these streets was burned to the ground Wednesday April 17 with contents. The fire is supposed to have started from an overheated evaporator. Before Mr. Dow with assistance could reach the building it was a mass of flames. The loss will be several hundreds, with no insurance.

GOOD AND BAD TRUSTS. This case raises the question included in what the president has called "good and bad" trusts. The question whether combinations as such shall be prohibited, whether the government is going to try to forbid all combinations regardless of their methods or ends, or whether on the other hand it is going to pursue the policy, frequently stated by the president, of regulation and control rather than of prohibition.

Commissioner Smith's letter to President Roosevelt was accompanied by a letter of endorsement from Oscar Straus, then secretary of commerce and labor.

The sending of the correspondence to the Senate was without sensational incidents, only a few weeks ago Attorney-General Wickersham flatly refused to send it in response to a resolution by Senator Lea of Tennessee. Today Senator Johnson of Alabama called upon the attorney-general for the correspondence and within two hours it was in hand.

## FOURTEEN MORE FOR TAFT

Rhode Island Sends to Instructed Delegates—Four from town and Michigan.

Providence, R. I., April 24.—Resolutions instructing the delegates to support the candidacy of President Taft were adopted at the republican state convention held here today. The delegates-at-large to the Chicago convention are: United States Senator Henry F. Lippitt, R. H. L. Goldard, Jr., Herbert A. Rice and George R. Lawton. They were instructed for Taft. Congressman Usher was chairman of the convention.

Three congressional district conventions were also held today. They completed about 10 minutes, and resolutions similar to those adopted at the state convention were carried at each.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, April 24.—Fifth congressional district delegates to the republican national convention: W. G. Downs, Cedar Rapids; P. H. Downing, Tipton, instructed for Taft.

Michigan, April 24.—First district delegates to the republican national convention are: Judge William L. Carpenter and John S. Hagerly, instructed for Taft.

## IOWA ENDORSES TAFT.

President Has 10 of State's Delegates and Cummins, 10.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, April 24.—President Taft was endorsed by Iowa republicans in their state and congressional conventions here today, four delegates-at-large to the national convention were instructed to vote for him. His list of Iowa delegates to the national convention was increased to 16 and the "favorite son" presidential candidacy of United States Senator Albert B. Cummins was rejected. President Taft having a majority of 41 votes.

All Iowa districts have now chosen delegates. Counting the four delegates-at-large President Taft's strength is 18. Senator Cummins has 10 delegates.

Colonel Roosevelt's endorsement was endorsed this afternoon in the minority report of the resolutions committee.

## PLANS 'PHONE EXTENSION.

Annual Meeting of Rutland Company and Election of Officers.

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# FIREMEN DESERT WHITE STAR LINER

Refuse to Sail on Olympic because They Believe Collapsible Boats Unsafe.

## SOLE PUNCHED WITH THUM.

Strikebreakers Taken Aboard but Crew Will Not Work with Them and Titanic's Sister Anchors.

Southampton, April 25.—When the White Star liner Olympic, sister ship of the Titanic, was ready to sail from here yesterday for New York 300 firemen and engine room workers quit the vessel declaring that the collapsible boats on the Olympic were unsafe.

The Olympic is lying off Ryde, Isle of Wight, with 1,400 passengers aboard and no possibility of sailing before noon today even if they were not refused to sail but for the present, they will all remain aboard the steamer. It was also reported soon after the strike was inaugurated that the company had succeeded in getting men to take the strikers' places, but this proved to be incorrect.

As a matter of fact the difficulty has extended to the crew, which now declines to sail with the "blackleg" firemen who were brought aboard yesterday, and the British Seafarers' union is supporting the men in this decision. Pickets are patrolling the docks to prevent the recruiting of "blacklegs."

In an endeavor to have the strikers return to work, Commander Clarke, chief of the emigration office in Southampton, offered to demonstrate in the Cowes roads that the boats on the Olympic were absolutely safe. The men refused to listen to this proposal, but later, it is learned, they declared that they would have been ready to sail if the company had agreed to demonstrate the seaworthiness of the boats at this port. This, in turn, the company declined to do.

OLYMPIC ABLE TO LEAVE DOCK. By pressing into service all the available engine room hands on the other White Star and American liners in port, the Olympic was able to leave dock just before two o'clock in the afternoon and proceeded down Southampton water where she awaited a fresh batch of firemen and greasers.

One of the strikers alleged that he put his thumb through the canvas of one of the new collapsible boats.

The revolt of the firemen and greasers of the Olympic aroused immense excitement at the docks, where great throngs had gathered to see the liner depart.

All the passengers, numbering 1,400, were already on board and the gangways from the dock to the ship, with the exception of one, had been withdrawn. As eight bells struck a perfect rain of firemen's kit bags suddenly dropped over the ship's forecastle on to the quay, and a few moments later the whole of the firemen and greasers fled down the single gangway.

All the arguments of the local White Star manager, Mr. Curry, and of Commander Clarke proved futile to induce the men expressed the fear that if they expressed the offer of Commander Clarke to go with them to Cowes and there to test the ship's boats they would not be allowed to leave the vessel if they desired to do so. All the passengers remained on board.

## ESSEX COUNTY COURT OPEN

Present Term Promises to Be a Short One.

Guildhall, April 24.—Essex county court opened here yesterday at 10:30 a. m. with the Hon. William H. Taylor of Harlow as presiding judge and the Hon. K. T. Brown and the Hon. C. H. McGinnis, assistant judges. The entire Essex county bar was on hand together with a number of attorneys from neighboring counties. The call of the bar docket disclosed the fact that the present term is to be a short one, there being two civil cases set for trial by jury and three for trial by the court with a number of cases that were left open to be disposed of later.

The grand jury reported at 2:30 p. m. and after being charged by the court returned to take up its investigations which are bound to be very limited. The petit jury received the charge of the court at 2:30 p. m. and immediately afterward a jury was empanelled in the case of Mr. Eugene Stone vs. Edwin Green, which is an action in trespass to recover damages for cattle alleged to have been driven away from the plaintiff's barn. It is claimed that nine were driven away and three were returned later in a very poor condition. The plaintiff's testimony dwelt on the description of the cattle, their value and the circumstances attending their being driven away and returned.

Mr. Lester Stone, a son of the plaintiff, was called to corroborate the testimony of his mother.

## TAFT 15,328, ROOSEVELT 11,925.

Concord, N. H., April 24.—With a few days still reported, and a few others yet to hold their caucuses, returns received here give President Taft to-night 197 delegates to the State convention as against 200 for Colonel Roosevelt. About 50 delegates are still to be accounted for. The preferential vote as compiled to-night shows a total for Taft of 15,328 and for Roosevelt of 11,925.

(Continued on page 2.)